

Author Heinrich Bell lectures here on European literature

November 4, 1971

Heinrich Bell, one of Europe's most important and best-selling authors, will speak on "The State of Literature in Europe Today," at 7:30 p.m., Friday, November 19, at the University of California, San Diego.

The lecture, which is free and open to the public, will be held in Room 2113, Applied Physics and Mathematics Building on the Muir College campus.

Bell, probably the most prominent German writer alive today, is president of the International Pen Club, the first German ever to hold this post. He has been called "the conscience of postwar Germany," and has been a prolific writer of fiction, both novels and short stories. His work often centers upon the problem of the need for engagement in modern society, a problem particularly acute to wartime and postwar generations in Germany.

Bell's own engagement in society is full and complex. He is a dedicated Roman Catholic, but at the same time he is highly critical of the West German government and is one of the most popular of all modern authors in the Soviet Union.

Since 1949, Bell has published more than thirty volumes of short stories and novels which have been translated into eighteen languages. He is a member of many national and international academies and has won eleven major literary prizes. An avid reader himself of modern English and American literature, Bell has done translations into German of Shaw, Brendan Behan, and J. D. Salinger.

(November 4, 1971)